

Music

VIEWS

OCTOBER • 1953

6
BETTY
HUTTON —
RECORD
SHOW STOPPER



for the first time
a NAT 'KING' COLE album
OF NEW VOCAL RECORDINGS!



Album No. 420

Love Is Here To Stay • This Can't Be Love
 Dinner For One Please, James • There Goes My Heart
 A Little Street Where Old Friends Meet
 Almost Like Being In Love
 A Handful Of Stars
 Tenderly



Music Views

Oct., 1953 Vol. XI, No. 10

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THE COVER

The amazing Betty Hutton does everything well. Ever since she entered show business at 14 as a singer with Vincent Lopez, she's racked up one triumph after another. Singer, actress, comedienne, good fellow—she's maintained a place at the top. Her recent return to the nightclub circuit was a phenomenal success. She now has two new sides going on Capitol, "No Matter How You Say Goodbye" and "Goin' Steady."

on the stand

BILLY MAY

Hollywood, Calif. 13 Oct., 2 Nov.

HORACE HEIDT

Walace, Idaho 16 Sept.
 Kalispell, Idaho 17 Sept.
 Shelby, Montana 18 Sept.
 Havre, Montana 19 Sept.
 Lewiston, Montana 20 Sept.
 Bozeman, Montana 21 Sept.
 Billings, Montana 23, 24 Sept.
 Miles City, Montana 25 Sept.
 Williston, N. D. 26 Sept.
 Mynot, N. D. 27 Sept.
 Grand Fork, N. D. 28 Sept.
 Fargo, N. D. 29 Sept.
 Jamestown, N. D. 30 Sept.
 Scottsbluff, Nebraska 8 Oct.
 Las Vegas, Nevada 20 Oct., 2 Nov.

FRANK SINATRA

Las Vegas, Nevada 7 Oct., 28 Oct.

STAN KENTON

Nuremberg, Germany 15 Sept.
 Munich, Germany 16 Sept.
 Cologne, Germany 19 Sept.
 Dublin, Ireland 20 Sept.

NAT (KING) COLE

Pittsburgh, Pa. 15 Sept., 20 Sept.
 Montreal, Canada 26 Sept.

JAN GARBER

Cleveland, Ohio 13 Sept.
 Houston, Texas 27 Sept.
 Dallas, Texas 28 Sept., 8 Oct.
 Wichita Falls, Kan. 15 Oct.
 Fort Leavenworth, Kan. 16 Oct.
 Davenport, Iowa 21 Oct.
 Champagne, Ill. 22 Oct.
 Omaha, Nebraska 24 Oct.
 Sioux City, Iowa 25 Oct.
 Amarillo, Texas 31 Oct.

RAY ANTHONY

Wichita, Kansas 15, 16 Sept.
 Hollywood, Calif. 22 Sept., 11 Oct.

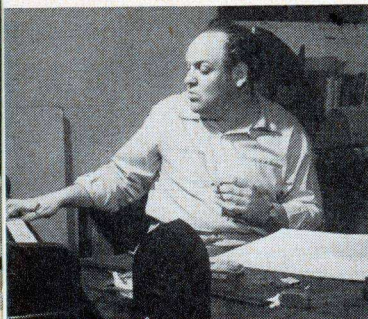
across the country



Candid camera catches Margaret Whiting thinking things over between takes of "Waltz to the Blues." Upcoming release will be new ballad with Nelson Riddle ork.



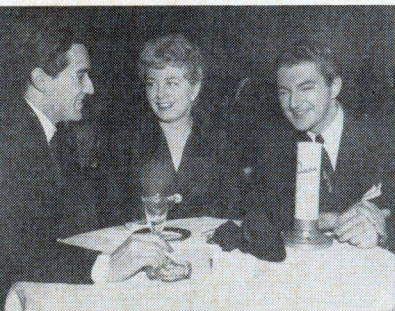
Capitol's June Christy cut four new sides before rejoining Stan Kenton for his European tour. Here she gabs it up with Lee Gillette, producer of session.



Billy May tests one of his famous saxophone figures before putting it into the arrangement of his new disk, "Romance," backed with "Gone With the Wind," both instrumentals.



June Hutton relaxes. And offstage Axel Stordahl rehearses the orchestra and "The Boys Next Door" for recording session of new platter, "No Stone Unturned," on Capitol.



Columbia Records' Liberace (right) was a recent first-nighter at Ciro's, Hollywood, with Vittorio Gassman and Shelley Winters, then took off on tour of concerts and club dates.



With his "Dragnet" clicking for his biggest hit, Ray Anthony congratulates Gisele MacKenzie on new contract as feature singer on "Lucky Strike Hit Parade" video program.



Perry Como gives golf tips to Eddie Fisher at Garden City Country Club, N. Y. But there's no evidence that Fisher needs tips on other common interests, like records.



Western artist Owen Perry entertains young Lee Ross Quinn, veep of Perry Fan Club, at his home in Minden, La. And Quinn gets some professional tips on tunes.

Life of Glenn Miller Goes on Film . . .



WHATEVER the Academy Awards Committee may say next March, dance music lovers are almost certain to vote a 1953 Oscar to a film now in the works at Universal-International and soon to be released. Its authenticity approved by the widow, its scenes featuring such contemporaries as Louis Armstrong, Gene Krupa and Ben Pollack in person, its sound track jumping with the arrangements that made him great, "The Glenn

Miller Story" promises to be one of Hollywood's musically most interesting movies.

The story, with James Stewart and June Allyson playing Glenn (above left) and Helen Miller, traces the development of Miller's career from 1925, when his first successful arrangement won him a job with Ben Pollack and His Californians, until his death in uniform Dec. 15, 1944.

Scrapping Miller's records and airchecks as unsuited to stereophonic sound, U-I acquired Miller's original manuscripts and put copyists to work tracing, note for note, ad lib solos to be re-recorded for the sound track. About fifteen of the arrangements, including "Moonlight Serenade," "Little Brown Jug," "Pennsylvania 6-500" and "Chattanooga Choo Choo" are expected to reach the screen.



Miller with Brod Crawford, Ray McKinley on wartime radio program (left). In film, Louis Armstrong (center) plays himself and trumpet. He sings in a jam session scene. Stewart (right) plays piano, accordion, but in film merely goes through coached motions of tromboning.



Joe Yukl (left) coached Stewart, "ghosted" sound track. Widow (center) explains how Glenn proposed by phone; she accepted in Denver while Glenn was playing with Ben Pollack in New York. Couple scrimped to help build Miller Band. Allyson (right) was widow's choice for her part.



Mrs. Glenn Miller tells Mrs. James Stewart of the many heartbreaks that occurred before tunes like "Moonlight Serenade" and "String of Pearls" made band a hit. Gene Krupa (center) was guest at Miller's wedding. At right the widow helps June Allyson recreate her own eventful experiences.



"Satchmo" helps Miss Allyson get in the mood. Center: Chummy McGregor and Ben Pollack were friends of Miller; Glenn played his first recording session with Pollack crew; Julie Dorsey, 19, is daughter of another friend, TD. Former Miller sidemen jive (right) to revive old "jam sessions."

Square Jack & The Round Stalk

A story line guaranteed to chill any mother's blood, told in slang that would make Hans Christian Andersen blanch, currently is putting over a crop of fairy tales on wax.



Collins

The trend began late this summer with Al "Jazzbo" Collins narrating "Little Red Riding Hood" on the Brunswick label.

Then Collins, goateed disk jockey of WNEW, N.Y., got out on Capitol with a version of "Jack and the Beanstalk."

Subtitled "A Grimm Fairy Tale for Hip Kids," the Collins disk tears into the story of Jack, who was "so square he was octagonal," like a bull in a china nursery.

The legendary cow swap that resulted in Jack's beanstalk undergoes a revision by Collins that sees Jack trapped in a night club with a giant emcee.

Collins brings to the narration the same wacky talent that surrounds his nightly disk shows with an atmosphere of intimacy and eccentricity. He broadcasts by candlelight from a dank cavern below 46th St., surrounded by a number of weird pets.



Herb Shriner, Spike Jones, Anna Alberghetti, Milton Berle, Mrs. Skelton, Red, Vic Damone go far from hungry at surprise birthday party for Red in Sahara Hotel, Las Vegas.

ALL HOLE

There's one new sound on wax that almost anybody can copy. It's three minutes of silence.

Although the idea has been kicked around as a gag for some time, an independent called the Donham label—after two CBS engineers, Ham O'Hara and Don Foster—now is out with a disk called "Three Minutes of Silence" and containing blank grooves on each side.

A similar silent disk reportedly is popular on juke boxes in England.



Cap's Helen O'Connell teams for first time with Skeets McDonald on "Hi Diddle Dee" and "Worried Mind." Success of Starr-Ernie and Whiting-Wakely duo sparked idea.

● WAX BUSINESS UP

Financial statements of the record companies took on a rosy glow this summer in reflecting the best business in years.

Capitol Records, racking up the biggest July in its history, revealed that net sales crossed the \$15 million-dollar mark to \$15,013,369 for the 12 months ended June 30, 1953. This compared with \$13,976,768 for the same period last year. Net profit after tax amounted to \$806,000.

Decca, meantime, reported a net profit of \$430,063 for the six months ended June 30. The figure compared with a net profit of \$270,923 in the same period last year.



Please don't shoot the piano player; we need him for tending bar! It's Joe "Fingers" Carr, costumed for "Joe 'Fingers' Carr & His Rag-time Band," new album for Capitol.

● HALF-TON TRIO

The reducing pills, tonics, etc., which are currently flooding the American market, could conceivably put one Swedish trio out of business. The Peters Sisters, (3) count 'em (3) appearing in Stockholm, base their promotion on their avoirdupois—nearly 1000 pounds combined weight.

● 8 - 9 - 10 - YER OUT!

If his plans develop, promoter Van Tonkins may have a newer twist on the "battle of the bands" gimmick. He is attempting to put together a package which he calls "battle of the bleaters." He is dickering with Champ Butler and Rusty Draper to appear on the same show in a one-nighter tour.



Rumba expert Xavier Cugat waves his brass down at Victor recording session. The result is a new disk with the double-up title of "You Too, You Too." Flipside: "Chivirico."

● LEON & EDDIE'S DARK

New York's Leon & Eddie's — 52nd Street's lone hold-out against boppers and strippers — has closed its doors after 25 years. Owner Eddie Davis has filed for bankruptcy, but the club may reopen this fall when business starts its seasonal upswing.

● GONE IN FAR EAST

Oct. 19, the citizens of Japan will play host for the first time to a gravel-filled voice and a note-filled trumpet, both firmly attached to the person of Louis Armstrong. Following the Japanese dates "Satchmo" will travel to Guam, Hong Kong, Manila and then to Honolulu.



WILLIAM CLAXTON PHOTO.

Baritone genius Gerry Mulligan is also one of the leading arranger-composers of the "modern sounds" school; has new Cap album titled, "Gerry Mulligan and His Ten-tette."



"The Band Wagon" is emerging as one of Hollywood's smash musicals. Here's Cyd Charisse, who stars in film with Fred Astaire, Oscar Levant and Nanette Fabray.



He's dropped the Yiddish kick on his new novelty "Scheherzade," but Mickey Katz (second from left, standing) & Co. toast Hebrew Holiday, Rosh Hashonah, anyway.

IT TAKES ALL KINDS

*One singer croons,
One singer warbles,
One sounds as if
He's lost his marbles.*

*One singer whispers,
One has doubts
Of being heard,
And so he shouts.*

*One singer yodels
Like a Swiss,
One singer bellows,
Hit or miss.*

*One singer wails,
One thinks he's Bing ...
One in a hundred
Singers sing.*

—Richard Armour



Above — left to right — we have singer Debbie Reynolds, and hasn't it been a beautiful summer? Debbie has a part in a new film, "Susan Slept Here." Anyone for swimming?

Brazilian Snapshot: Villa-Lobos in 1918

With personal appearances in this country, and with publication of his "Quatuor" and "Nonetto" as a Capitol album this fall, the colorful Brazilian composer, Heitor Villa-Lobos, is once again in the news.

One of the more interesting aspects of the 66-year-old rugged individualist's career is recalled by Critic Albert Goldberg in the Los Angeles Times, who noted that the Brazilian government is generally credited with "discovering" Villa-Lobos in 1918, when it sent him to Paris to study.

Pianist Artur Rubinstein tells a different story, says Goldberg:

"I had given a recital in Rio in 1918 and afterward three students came back to tell me of a mad genius who had been expelled from the conservatory and was then playing the cello in a movie theater. I let them take me to Villa-Lobos and he played an African dance for me. I was at once impressed but he became very rude to me. 'Virtuosos are never interested in music,' he declared haughtily, and I left.

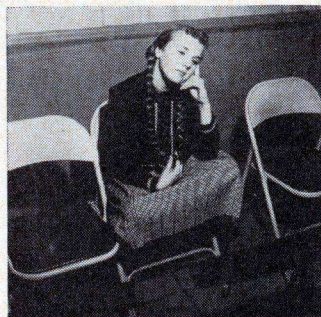
"The next morning at 8 o'clock I was awakened by a knock at my



Composer Heitor Villa-Lobos (center) hears the recording of his "Quatuor and Nonetto" for the first time in office of Cap Producer R. E. Myers. Left Roger Wagner.

hotel room. There was Villa-Lobos with 16 musicians. He wanted me to hear some of his orchestral pieces, so an obliging hotel management cleared the room of furniture and I listened to his music all morning.

"I was enthusiastic and the next day I went to a man named Guinlee, a rich coffee grower, and asked him to help Villa-Lobos. He wanted to know what there was in it for him. I explained that Beethoven's friends are now remembered only for what they did for him. He saw the point and at once wrote a large check which permitted Villa-Lobos to go to Paris to continue his studies."



Molly Bee, who just celebrated her 14th birthday, is critically listening to an early "take" at recent session. Everyone was happy with final result, "God Bless Us All."



Teresa Brewer, who sounds like a big little girl, photographs like a little big girl in Pine-Thomas' production, "Those Redheads From Seattle." She's still "Waltzing."

● ONWARD, UPWARD, OUT

The movies, radio, TV and records are producing a superior breed of young musicians, says Arranger-Conductor Frank DeVol, who recalls that the only music he heard as a boy was played in church or by his father's pit orchestra in the Grand Opera House, Canton, Ohio. "Young professionals coming along now are technically better and often have better ideas than those of us who are established," DeVol admitted to Muriel Barnett of the Times-Mirror Feature Syndicate.

● WHAT PRICE JAZZ?

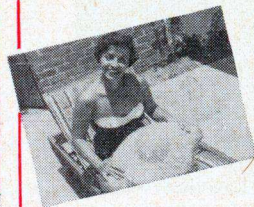
Musicians and fans in England are flying the Channel to hear Stan Kenton in Europe. For approximately \$20 per person, London's New Musical Express arranged chartered flights to Brussels for one day of sight-seeing and a seat at the Kenton concert. "The Jazz Airmada" is said to have included members of Ted Heath band and the Freddy Randall orchestra.

● MARTINO DIGS BRITAIN

Al Martino made headlines in the British musical press recently by announcing that he plans to make all his records in London "to capture the quality and tone of British recordings."

The Kay Starr Style

Kay Starr recently bought a San Fernando Valley ranch for her parents; spends her own time there between engagements; finds life informal and fun.



California sun gives Kay a new tan for autumn.

Soft drinks all around for the kids next door.

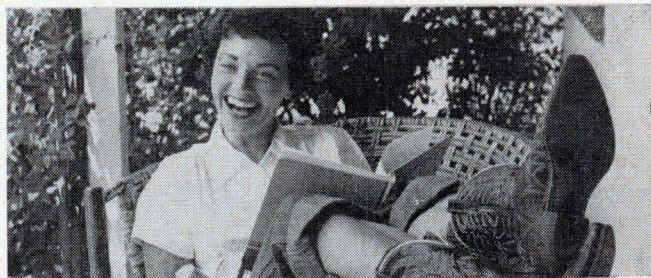


Angler Kay likes to practice casting in the yard.



Trying on dress bought for trip to Europe, 1953.

at Home



Hit records like her current "Half a Photograph" have turned Kathryn Starks, of Dougherty, Okla., into the celebrity known as Kay Starr, but she likes to drop the glamor at home.



Daughter Cathy, 7, wants to "be a cowboy," not a singer, when she grows up.



Kay is famous for her cooking, prefers Chinese, and Spanish, dishes.



Her pet cocker, Sam, joins Kay for an errand. She also owns a poodle, Martini.



Her father, Harry Starks, encouraged amateur singing that led to Kay's career.

exciting variety in NEW CAPITOL ALBUMS!

THE PARK AVENUE HILLBILLIE

Dorothy Shay, the inimitable country chanteuse, sings some of the best of her slyly sophisticated ditties.

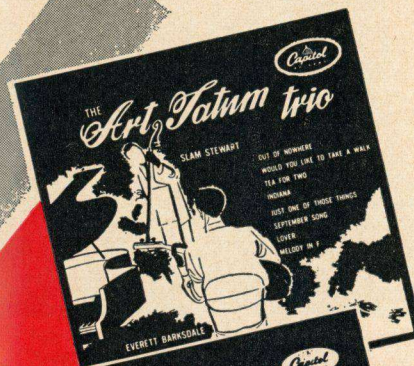
Album No. 444



DREAMTIME

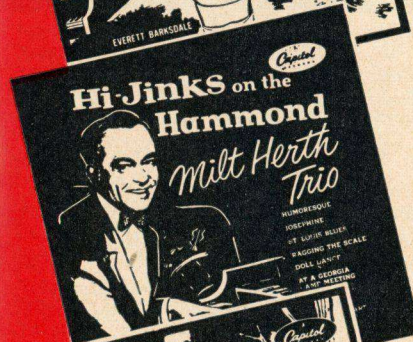
Axel Stordahl's lovely arrangements of ever-popular ballads, sensitively played by the Strings of Stordahl.

Album No. 445



**THE ART TATUM
TRIO** Sparkling new performances by the jazz-lover's favorite pianist, teamed again with Slam Stewart's singing bass.

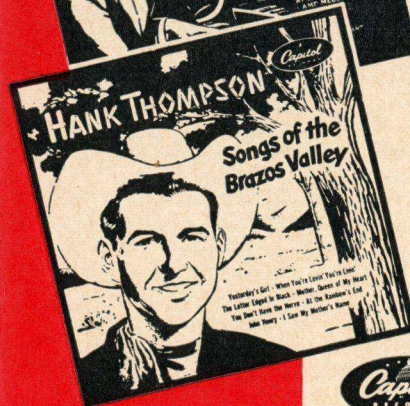
Album No. 408



HI-JINKS ON THE HAMMOND

The Milt Herth Trio, stars of theaters and night clubs, play bubbling music that's delightfully good-humored.

Album No. 425



SONGS OF THE BRAZOS VALLEY

Hank Thompson presents his first album of the sentimental songs that have made him a top singer of country music.

Album No. 418





Johnny Standley shows members of Horace Heidt's troupe how to look "In the Book" and find a hit disk. His new one: "Proud New Father," was "Rock-a-bye Baby."

● THE REAL THING

If imitation is flattery, Kay Starr, Patti Page, Rosemary Clooney and Teresa Brewer are the Valentines of Japan. Teen-age Japanese vocalists are said to be mimicking them with such success that the carbons are competing for



Page

record sales. Kay Starr's Nipponese reflection is Chiemi Eri, 17, whose night club act also includes imitations of Doris Day, Patti Page and Rosemary Clooney. Izumi Yukimura rose to stardom with a replica of Teresa Brewer's "Till I Waltz Again With You," but her version of "Don't Let the Stars Get In Your Eyes" reportedly shows originality.



Here's the fabulous May Wynn who won singing role in film "Caine Mutiny." The ex-New York showgirl is guaranteed to incite mutiny in any man's crew. Avast!

MUSIC APPRECIATION

*At the age of six piano keys
Succumbed beneath my
digits;*

*At eight my half-sized violin
Gave all the neighbors
fidgets;*

*At ten it was a clarinet,
At twelve it was a trumpet,
Later on a set of drums
Complete with sticks to
thump it.*

*Trombone, tuba, piccolo,
You name it pal—I
played it*

*A childhood spent in music
lessons*

Taught me how to hate it.

—Bolloff.



L.A. Disk Jockey Al Jarvis up and went theatrical recently in a local stage production of "Mister Roberts." Playing opposite him in this scene is pretty Mavis Russell.

● U.S. IN CULTURE FEST

Seven nations were to participate in the Third Berlin Cultural Festival Aug. 30 to Sept. 27—Italy, France, Great Britain, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Programs included 18 operas, several symphony and ballet concerts, and various chamber groups.

● ITALY TO GET SUMAC

Yma Sumac has been set to make the Italian tour which was postponed last year. Plans call for a week in Milan starting Nov. 3 and a week in Rome beginning Nov. 9. A big disk seller in Italy, her latest album for Capitol is "Inca Taqui," a collection of native Peruvian chants.



Duke Ellington demonstrates technique of getting top performance from his orchestra. Newest album, "Premiered by Ellington," collects group of tunes Duke introduced.

● WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Except for Eartha Kitt, a gal singer who became a night club sensation after her appearance in "New Faces of 1953," name personalities attempting to crash the record field in recent months have found it tough sledding, observes Weekly



Eartha

Variety. Miss Kitt currently is pacing Victor's sales with an LP album and a single record from the package, "C'est Si Bon." Her first disk for the label was a novelty, "Uska Dara." Eartha has one, but Variety observes: "It takes more than a name to click in the wax market."



Thrush Dorothy Dandridge has been signed up to co-headline the Texas State Fair, Dallas, this October. Singer also stars in "Bright Road."

GREAT DANE

That "Doggie In the Window" has developed a Danish accent. The Danish version of the tune, by Raquel Rastenni, has sold over 50,000 records—comparable to 2,000,000 in the United States. Flip of the Danish biscuit is another U. S. import, "Seven Lonely Days."

● SHOW ALBUMS HOT

Capitol's "Can-Can," Victor's "Me and Juliet" and Decca's "Wonderful Town" are leading a bumper crop of original-cast Broadway show albums now on the best-seller lists in record stores throughout the country.

Except for "No Other Love" from "Juliet" and "Allez Vous En" from "Can-Can," the albums reportedly are out-selling single records on tunes from the musical comedies.

This, reports Variety, has revived faith in the record potentialities of new Broadway shows, and spirited bidding for original-cast rights is expected on this fall's new musical openings.

Until this summer, recording companies had become leery of albums featuring the Broadway casts because most of the packages had turned out to be duds in the past few years.



RCA and Columbia Records are reported eager to sign 10-year-old Gayla Peevey, NBC-TV singing discovery. With her is dancer Peggy Gordon. Gayla is from Oklahoma.



Teddy Nash (sax), Nick Fatool (drums), Ziggy Elman (trumpet) and arranger Buddy Bregman hatch "Sunday in Savannah," Trend label, for singer Bobby Short (right).

SAD SONGS

The record business has its ups and its downs all over the world, but things are really tough in Tel Aviv. Israel manufactures no phonographs, slaps a \$400 tax on each set imported. A smash hit sells around 10,000 records at \$1.75 each.

"There are only two disk companies in Israel," says weekly Variety, "and these are operated on an ad lib basis. When an artist decides to do a song, he sits down with the owner of the disk company to discuss the arrangements. There are also no recording studios here. They record in offices, apartments and theaters."

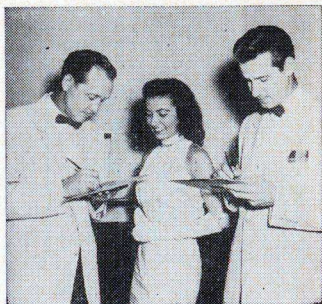
High-Fidelity Boom on In Low-Price Sets

How do you feel about frequency response and internal impedance?

The chances are you will soon be feeling strongly about these and other technical aspects of high-fidelity phonographs, for, as *Billboard* reports, "the hi-fi boom is on."

RCA Victor, Motorola, Magnavox, Zenith, Webcor, V-M and perhaps other phonograph manufacturers are going all-out this fall to bring the high-priced delights of high-fidelity listening within the economic reach of most phonograph buyers.

Although you can spend as much as \$1300 on equipment capable of reproducing the buzz of a second oboist's loose tooth, a number of sets equal to high-fidelity playback are going on the



Louise (Miss Atlanta) Hayes here gets a double helping of the Smith Bros. new Capitol "sacred" record, "I Have But One Goal," "Sinner's Dream." Louise works in Radio.

market at \$100 to \$300.

Until this fall, high fidelity phonographs have been largely a hobby of the few, but the advent of 45 and 33 r.p.m. speed records has awakened masses of record buyers to the pleasures of extended frequency and range.

TUNE TEASER

Here's a quiz on music and composers worked up by Buddy Basch, well known New York publicist. Score yourself one point for each correct answer and rate yourself as follows: 0-5, Square; 6-10, Hep; 11-15, Gone; 16-20, Real Gone; 21-25, Cool; 26-30 or

more, Crazy. Answers on Page 28.

Name within five years the year these songs were written: (A) Always, (B) Sugar Blues, (C) Ballin' the Jack, (D) South America, Take It Away, (E) Humoresque, (F) Stompin' at the Savoy, (G) Mule Train, (H) Parade of the Wooden Soldiers, (I) Constantly,

● AGREE ON GOODMAN

RCA Victor and Columbia Records have signed an unusual agreement in settlement of a two-year-old dispute over concert and radio tapes made by Benny Goodman as long as 15 years ago. Under the terms, Victor released all claim to the tapes in return for Columbia's permission to issue a couple of albums from radio programs of Columbia pacts.

The dispute broke out two years ago when Columbia issued the Goodman "1938 Carnegie Hall Concert" album from tapes. Victor claimed that Goodman was under contract there in 1938 and had no right to sell Columbia tapes made for his personal use.

In settling their differences, Columbia also gave Victor permission to issue an album by Duke Ellington based on a Seattle jazz concert last year, when Ellington was under contract to Columbia.



Lollipop in hand, Brucie Weil relaxes in MCA's New York office after his "God Bless Us All" record won him a long-term contract with the agency. He's all of 6 years old.

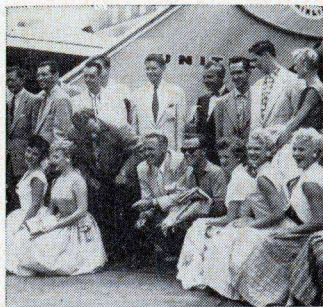
● VAUDEVILLE OSCAR

Herman Hover, operator of Ciro's in Hollywood, is poking around in the blanching bones of vaudeville with the idea of creating an award for top performers. Hover suggests the award be called the "Hope" award, after Bob Hope.

(J) Asleep in the Deep, (K) Rock of Ages, (L) Thanks a Million, (M) Warsaw Concerto, (N) Come, Josephine, in my Flying Machine, (O) Margie, (P) Two Sleepy People, (Q) Once in Love with Amy, (R) A Bird in a Gilded Cage, (S) Laura, (T) Love's Old Sweet Song.

Name one writer of each

these famous tunes: (A) Bewitched, (B) Top Hat, White Tie and Tails, (C) Small Fry, (D) Love Walked In, (E) Take it Easy, (F) September Song, (G) Who's Sorry Now? (H) Georgia, (I) Trees, (J) My Reverie, (K) Manana, (L) Gone With the Wind, (M) Third Man Theme, (N) The Thing, (O) School Days.



Members of "The Horace Heidt Show" take off for Korea where they entertained the first U.S. prisoners released in "operation big switch." U.S. requested the tour.

● NEW 'MANON' OUT

Among the first recordings released by Capitol on the Cetra label is the first new recording of the complete Puccini opera, "Manon Lescaut," featuring Clara Petrella. The opera, to be staged next season by the Metropolitan,



Petrella

is one of Puccini's earlier works and only one other recording is in existence. Additional works now available on the new Cetra label include "Lucia Di Lammermoor," "The Barber of Seville," "The Marriage of Figaro" and "Aida." Soon to be released are "La Boheme" and "Pagliacci and Cavalleria Rusticana."



Capitol president Glenn Wallichs, en route to Japan, receives the one-hundred-thousand-mile plaque for air travel from United Air Line's Hollywood mgr., Gil Leindecker.

P. S., I DIG YOU

Citizens who may be contemplating migration to deepest Africa in order to escape American music had better give up the idea. MGM Records has a fan letter written to Hank Williams which reads: "Dear Sir, with much pleasure to write you this few lines which contains nothing friend. Please kindly send me your free snapshot which I will keep for remembering you always. I have nothing more to say but thanks. Goodbye to you. Best wishes." The letter was postmarked "Accra Ghana, West Africa."

BIG LEAGUE

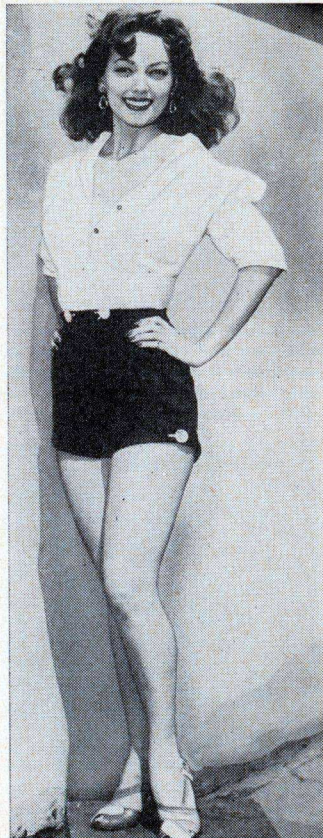
If you buy records in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia or St. Louis, you're practically in the music business. According to publishers, these are the key cities at present in the making of a nationwide song hit.

● BANDS ACROSS THE SEA

Skirmishing which flares repeatedly between the American Federation of Musicians and the British Musicians Union may be coming to an end. Paris meetings between James Petrillo of the AFM and Hardie Ratcliffe of the BMU resulted in Petrillo's agreeing to take a British proposal before the AFM executive board. Petrillo had proposed lifting the barriers on the exchange of musicians for a one-year trial period.

● TV MUSICAL COMEDIES

The first original musical comedies written for television are to make their debut on the glass screen this year or early next. The Ford Foundation has ordered the material prepared for presentation on the "Junior Omnibus" TV series, "Excursion." Assignments for the writing went to Harold Rome, Alan Jay Lerner and Arthur Schwartz, with Jerome Stagg as producer.



A new addition to songwriter Jimmy McHugh's night club act is Helene Stanton. The Philadelphia beauty is 22 years old with red hair and green eyes. Helene sings.



The critics agreed Joanne Gilbert had "arrived" when she reopened recently at Mocambo. Here she talks shop with Michael Rayhill, young N. Y. vocalist, between shows.

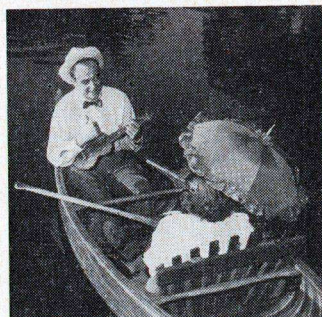
● 'SACREDS' HAVE DAY

Religion, popular music version, hits tin pan alley periodically; this is one of the periods. A sacred tune is especially desirable from the profane point of view because of big sheet-music sales—a rarity these days. Current big items include, "God Bless Us All," "Vaya Con Dios," "Crying In the Chapel," "With These Hands," and of course, "I Believe."

"Bless Us," a sentimental tune kicked off on Barbour Records by six-year-old Brucie Weil, is stirring up more fuss in the music business than anything since "Oh, Happy Day." Song is breaking on nearly half a dozen labels, including a Capitol version by Molly



Chicago's Garry Wells (left) and Chicago's Remo Biondi check Remo's arrangement for Wells' second Capitol release, "Time Changes Everything" backed by "Borrowed Time."



Cliffie Stone advises canoeists "never paddle with a ukelele; in fact, never paddle." Stone and his Hometown Hepcats currently are hep on "Rocky Mountain Express."

Bee, a Columbia disk by Jimmy Boyd and a Mercury platter featuring Baby Pam.



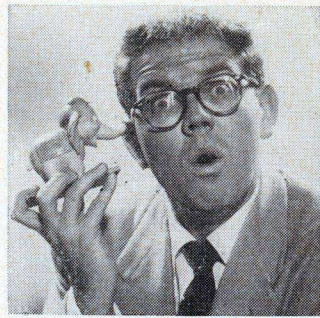
Patachou, new French singing sensation, gets some posies from Zsa Zsa Gabor in token of a Los Angeles bistro triumph. Gabor sang in John Huston film, "Moulin Rouge."

● JAZZ ON PAPER

The revival of jazz has sparked publication of a new jazz book, complete with a complicated series of tie-ins. Cress Courtney of the Gale Agency, N.Y., is syndicating a series of picture books about jazz personalities who have appeared at Birdland. The booklet is to have various disk jockeys around the country as the focal theme. In return for plugs on the deejay's show, each jock will receive a cut of the revenue.

● KIDS STICK TO 78

Now that virtually all the popular and classical albums and most of the pop singles have found their market on 45 and 33 rpm



Dinky Pinky, a new children's record character dreamed up by Capitol, gives Stan Freberg an earful. Versatile Stan does the voices on many tot platters for Cap.



Jean Shepard, 19, is the singing voice on Capitol's "A Dear John Letter," a current hit phenomenon. Sad recitation on the record is by Ferlin Huskey, Cap's hit newcomer.

disks, the lone field to hold its own on the 78 rpm records is the Kiddie field.



Paramount's Arlene Dahl and Columbia Records' Rosemary Clooney relax on the set of "Here Come the Girls." Newest Clooney disk, "Stick With Me," is going strong.



Fresh faces, fresh sounds are the trademarks of the Four Freshmen. All four sing as well as play instruments. New Capitol pressing is titled "It Happened Once Before."

● CALL OF THE ROAD

Orchestras once jumped at the chance of long engagements at big hotels, but new times have got the hotel operators scrambling. Bandleaders now figure one-nighters more lucrative than location dates and more helpful in record promotion. Radio broadcasts from hotels once provided a big audience for the orks; nowadays people listen to the deejays.

● VICTOR HUNTS TALENT

A & R Man Danny Kessler, newly appointed rhythm and blues chief of RCA Victor, currently is touring the country with an ear cocked for new talent.

QUIZ ANSWERS

A—1899, B—1923, C—1913, D—1946, E—1894, F—1936, G—1949, H—1922, I—1910, J—1897, K—1832, L—1935, M—1942, N—1910, O—1920, P—1938, Q—1948, R—1900, S—1945, T—1914.

A—Rodgers & Hart, B—Berlin, C—Loesser & Carmichael, D—Gershwin & Gershwin, E—Mizzy, Taylor & De Bru, F—Anderson & Weill, G—Kalmar & Ruby, H—Donaldson & Johnson, I—Kilmer & Rasbach, J—Clinton, K—Lee & Barbour, L—Kenny & Kenny, M—Karas, N—Greene, O—Edwards & Cobb.

vamp till ready



THE STORY OF A HIT RECORD

ONCE IN A great while a record comes along that proves to be as popular as the story behind it is interesting. This time it's happened with Pee Wee Hunt's "Oh!", an instrumental trifle that has sold 350,000 records in two short months. Here is the story of how this particular hit came to be made.

It goes back to 1928, when San Francisco discovered a new dance band in the Mark Hopkins Hotel. Soon Anson Weeks had become the talk and song of the nation. And one of the most popular numbers in his library turned out to be this simple, stop-time melody, featuring trombone.



Hunt

Played as the kicker on the half-hour dance medlies that Weeks made a trademark, it brought down the Hopkins every time. And when Jimmy Walsh, trombone, quit Weeks to form a Bay Area band with Griff Williams, "Oh!" became a show-stopper in their library, too.



Gilmore

The drummer in the Walsh-Williams band was Voyle Gilmore, a San Francisco boy who soon traded in his brushes for a brief case and became a Capitol Records salesman. Gilmore was District Manager for Capitol in San Francisco when Pee Wee Hunt entered the picture in 1947 via "Twelfth Street Rag."

One of the biggest sellers ever produced by the domed label, "Twelfth Street," with Carl Fischer on piano, gave Gilmore something to shoot for

Continued on next page

Continued from preceding page

when he moved to Hollywood as artist and repertoire man for Capitol. One of his jobs was finding hit material for a number of artists, including Pee Wee Hunt.

GILMORE says now that "Oh" might never have been made had he not gone shopping with his wife one evening and run into a pal he hadn't seen in ten years. The friend was Pete Fylling, then playing trumpet with Russ Morgan in Los Angeles.

Fylling had played with Anson Weeks in San Francisco in 1928, and when they began hashing over old times and tunes, Gilmore remembered "Oh!" On the spot, which happened to be the nylon counter in a department store, he commissioned Fylling to arrange "Oh!" in stop-time for Pee Wee Hunt's six pieces.

The rest is current history, except for the fact that Gilmore, who master-minded the hit, and Hunt, who executed it, have never met. "Oh!" and its flip side, "San," were recorded early this year in Kansas City, where Hunt was working. The A & R man on the date was Dave Cavanaugh, a Capitol conductor-arranger who happened to be going east about the time Fylling brought in his arrangement.



Cavanaugh

Hunt didn't care for the idea when Cavanaugh first suggested recording "Oh!" He changed his mind only after Cavanaugh made some revisions in the arrangement. Then he was so sold that, listening to the playback for the first time, the big fellow shook his head and delivered what turned out to be the true verdict:

"That's a nickel-grabber if ever I heard one!"

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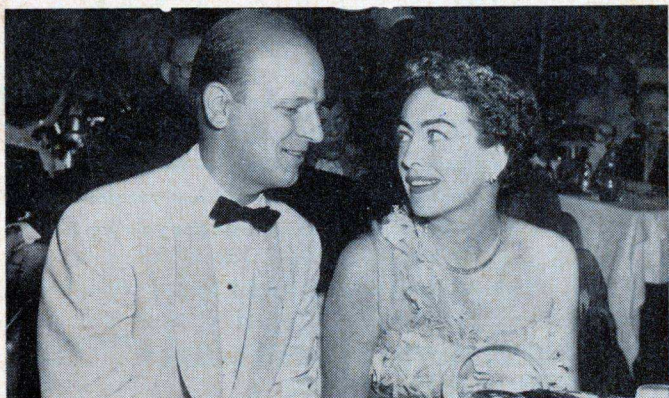
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Actress Joan Crawford was a first-nighter when Les Baxter capped the success of several record hits, including "April in Portugal" and "I Love Paris," with an engagement at the Coconut Grove. New Baxter single is "Elaine," an instrumental from a popular French movie.